

Remarks


The present application is a continuation of application Serial No. 08/904,855, filed on August 1, 1997. The specification has been amended to reflect such a priority claim. It has also been amended to correct typographical errors. Marked-up copies of pages 1, 13, 20 and 31 of the specification reflecting the amendments are enclosed. In addition, Figs. 14, 16 and 18 have been amended to correct typographical errors. Accordingly, marked-up copies of these figures with corrections in red are enclosed, along with a Letter to the Official Draftsperson.

Applicant has cancelled claims 1-20. Claims 21-84 have been added which are drawn to various aspects of the invention.

In addition, applicant brings to the Examiner's attention the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 (12 pages). Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.98(d), copies of these references are not enclosed as they were previously cited by or transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in the parent application identified above. It is respectfully requested that the listed references be made of record in the present application.

Respectfully,

Michael L. Obradovich

By 
Alex L. Yip, Attorney
Reg. No. 34,759
212-836-7363

Date: July 6, 2001
Enclosures

09900391-070601

M. L. Obradovich 2

CENTRALIZED CONTROL AND
MANAGEMENT SYSTEM FOR AUTOMOBILES

This application is a continuation of application Serial No. 08/904,855, filed on August 1, 1997.
Statement of Related Applications

The present application is related to ~~co~~pending,
5 commonly assigned U.S. Patent ~~Application Serial No. 08/789,934~~, entitled "~~Multimedia Information and Control~~
~~System for Automobiles.~~"

Field of the Invention

The invention relates generally to control and
10 management systems and, more particularly, to a system for
use in an automobile which facilitates the user's control
and management of various vehicle functions.

Background of the Invention

The concept of an automated highway system (AHS)
15 has been fervently pursued. Although the interpretation of
the AHS concept varies from one person to another, people
implementing the concept are incorporating more and more
technology into an automobile to improve its operations,
better its safety measures, and add conveniences to the
20 vehicle user.

A prevalent interpretation of the AHS concept is
hands-free driving. To that end, magnets have been buried
along an experimental automated highway, and automobiles
have been equipped with magnetometers to sense the magnets
25 to guide the moving vehicles, thereby obviating manual
steering. In another approach, an automobile is equipped
with a video system in which cameras monitor different
segments of the road ahead and feed images to on-board
computers that control steering, acceleration and braking of
30 the vehicle.

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detected by processor 103, the user is elicited for information concerning the destination, any intermediate stops, etc. Such elicitation is realized by posing questions on display 205 and/or by uttering those questions using a synthesized voice through an audio output. The user then provides verbal responses thereto through an audio input. Relying on standard speech recognition circuitry in system 100, navigation system 329 recognizes and registers the responses. Using stored map information, system 329 then provides on display 205 a suggested route leading to the destination. Furthermore, based on the knowledge of the vehicle's instantaneous speeds and directions, system 329 is capable of verbally and visually directing the user to the destination.

Because of the limited capacity of the storage for the map information or because the map information needs to be updated from time to time, it will be appreciated that system 329 would instead obtain the necessary, latest map information from an on-line service through a cellular or wireless connection.

In addition to directing the user to a given destination, system 329 through processor 103 cooperates with weather system 332 and traffic system 336 to be described. In accordance with an aspect of the invention, systems 332 and 336 jointly ^{provide} ~~provide~~ on display 205 updates regarding traffic ^{congestions} ~~congestion~~, weather conditions, hazards, highway warnings along the route suggested by system 329.

Fig. 6 illustrates one such navigation screen on display 205. On this screen, indicator 450 marks the current position of the vehicle. The suggested route (shown in boldface) by navigation system 329 is numerically denoted 453. Traffic indicator 455 is provided by system 336 to

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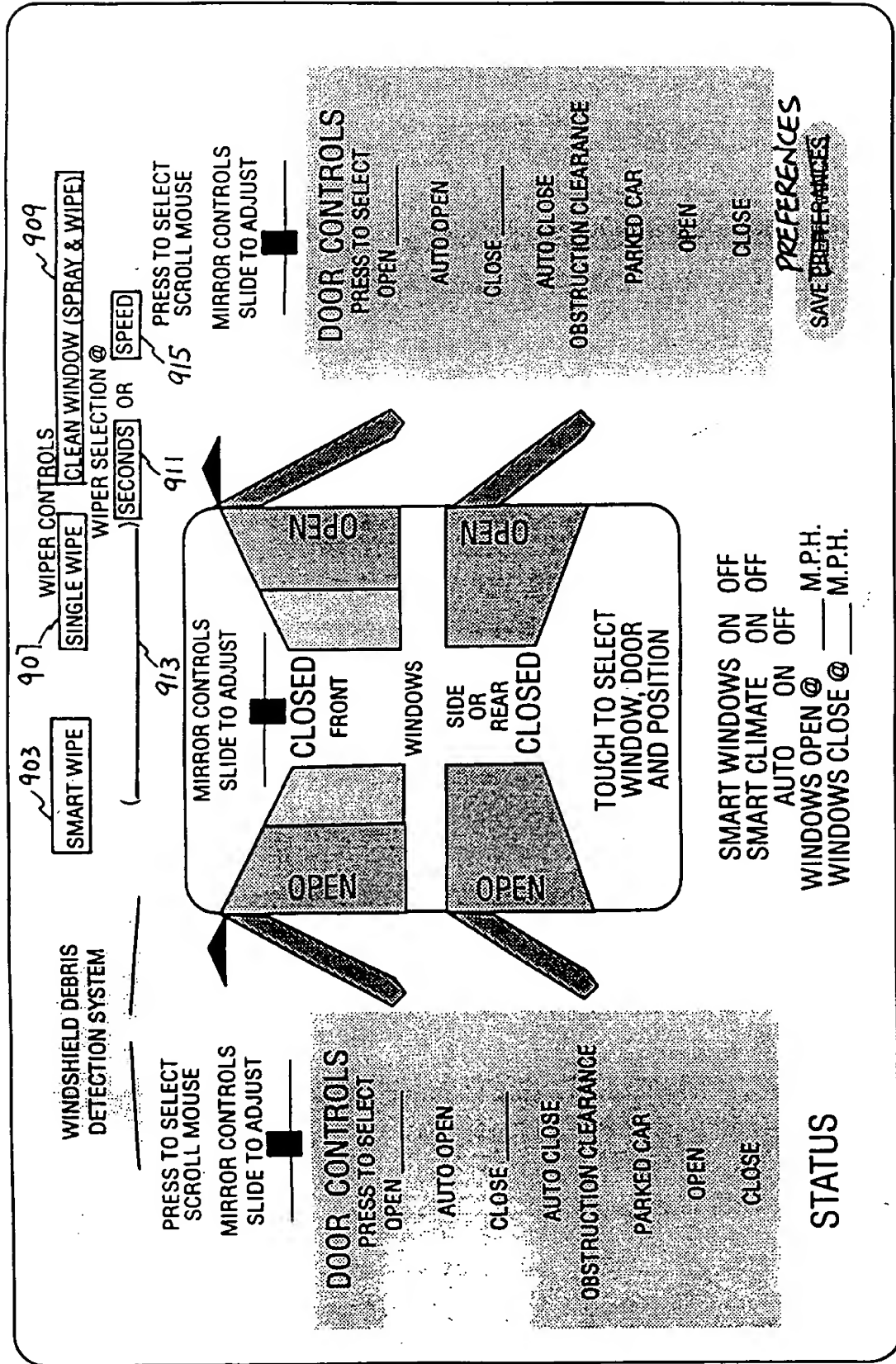
25

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window, respectively. Indicators 821, 823, 825 and 827 on
the hypotenuses of the respective triangles indicate the
extents to which the corresponding windows are open. The
user may touch the indicator on the screen to raise (or
5 lower) it along the hypotenuse. In response, processor 103
causes access control subsystem 139 to close (or open) the
window accordingly. Alternatively, the user may operate
indicator device 227 or 229 to point at one of the
indicators and drag same along the hypotenuse to control the
10 corresponding window opening.

In addition, a SMART WINDOWS function on sub-
screen 840 may be selected by touching ON option 842 on the
screen or pointing and clicking at same. With the SMART
WINDOWS function selected, for example, subsystem 139 causes
15 the windows to be ~~complete~~^{completely} closed upon a shut-off of the
engine or an activation of air conditioning. When coupled
with a SMART CLIMATE function to be described, the SMART
WINDOWS function includes slightly opening selected windows
to vent out excess heat prior to the user's arrival, thereby
20 pre-conditioning the vehicle. In addition, when an AUTO
function on sub-screen 840 is selected, the user can specify
the vehicle speed at which the driver side front window is
made completely open or closed. By touching on the screen,
or pointing and clicking at blank 845 or blank 850, choices
25 of speed are listed beneath the blank. For example, by
selecting a zero speed for blank 845 ahead of a toll plaza,
the window in question would be completely opened when the
vehicle stops at a toll booth, thereby conveniently allowing
the user to pay tolls.

30 The screen of Fig. 13 may also be invoked by
depressing DOORS key 232b. Flaps 851, 853, 855 and 857 in
Fig. 13 correspond to the driver side front door, driver

Fig. 14



SHIFT



Fig. 16

QUICKTIPS VOICE VISUAL

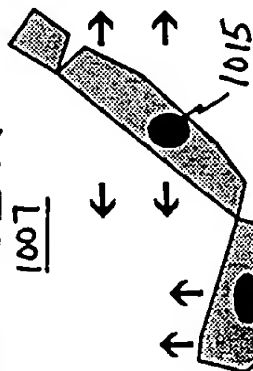
DRIVER PASSENGER 1 2 3 4

CLIMATE CONTROL SYSTEM

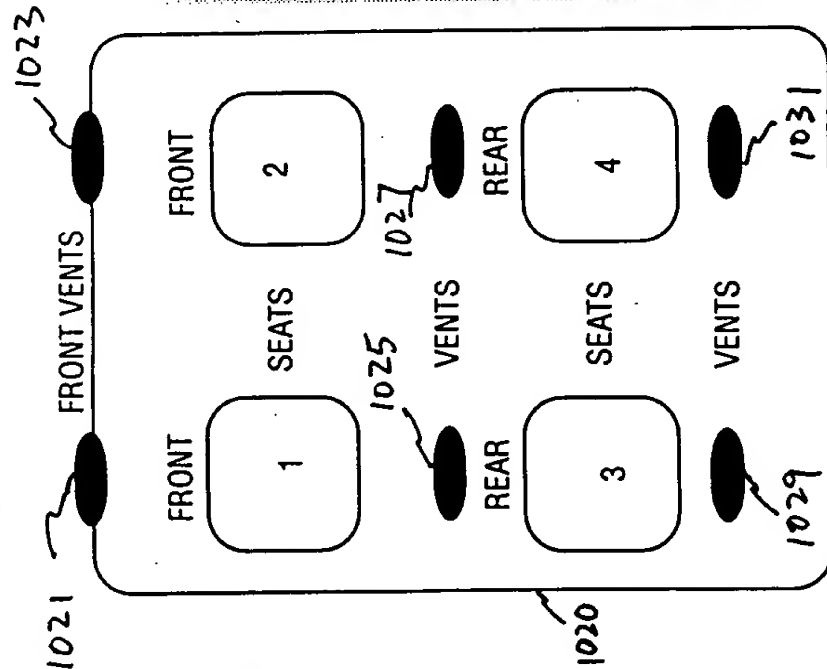
MOVE MOUSE OR
PRESS TO SELECT

SEAT CONTROLS

DRIVER 1005
PASSENGER 2 3 4 1007



SLIDE OR TOUCH TO ADJUST
ARM REST ADJUSTMENTS
SEAT HEATER ON OFF
SMART SEATS
CUSHION ADJUSTMENT
BACK SUPPORT ADJUSTMENT
AUTO TEMPERATURE CONTROL
MESSAGE ON OFF



FAN CONTROLS
VENT CONTROLS
MANUAL AIR VOLUME
WINDSHIELD DEFROST
REAR DEFROST
MIRROR DEFROST
SMART ALL AUTO DEFROST
TEMPERATURE SET
AIR RECIRCULATION
ACTIVE FILTER SYSTEM
CONTAMINATION ALERT

MORE INFORMATION
PREFERENCES
SAVE PREFERENCES

WARNING MESSAGES

RESTORE SETTINGS

10440187600560

SELECTIONS FROM
MENU OR SCREEN

QUICK TIP: PRESS
ANIMATION TO HEAR AND
SEE DEMO

ANIMATION VOICE

MORE INFORMATION

USER ICON

AUDIO SYSTEM RADIO CASSETTE CD VIDEO TV WEATHER BAND

RADIO STATIONS: XX LOS ANGELES, XX SANTA ANA STATIONS

X IRVINE

SAVE AREA SETTINGS YES NO

SELECTION BEING PLAYED:

XX SONG, XX ALBUM

YOU ARE
LISTENING
TO

1273

1271

10 COUNTRY: FM 100.7 FM 102.9 AM 103.5

1275

8 TALK / NEWS: AM 79.00 FM 89.9 FM 91.2 AM 98.6 AM 107.0

1277

5 ROCK: FM 89.3 FM 98.1 AM 99.0 FM 102.7 FM 107.90

2 CLASSIC: FM 91.4 FM 96.4

SET FOR DRIVER PASSENGER 1 2 3 4 5

1247 1249

ON OFF VOLUME CONTROL FADER CONTROLS FRONT BACK LEFT LEFT RIGHT RIGHT

MOVE SPEAKERS FOR
DESIRED SOUND

EFFECTS
PRESS EFFECT THEN
SPEAKER

ROCK
SURROUND
MOVIE
ETC.

YOU
ARE
HERE

QUICK TIP: SCROLL FOR
XX MORE STATIONS
USE MOUSE CONTROLS
OR PRESS TO SELECT

QUICK TIP: ANTENNA IS
ACTIVATED BY RADIO AND
TELEPHONE, BOTH MUST BE
SWITCHED OFF TO LOWER
ANTENNA

STEREO
DOLBY
DIGITAL
ENCODED

SMART AUDIO
AUTO RADIO

RESTORE SETTINGS
MORE INFORMATION
PREFERENCES
SAVE PREFERENCES

1207

1205

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Application Number

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First Named Inventor

Group Art Unit

Examiner Name

Attorney Docket Number

M. L. Obradovich

Sheet

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of

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09800-1020

11 FEB 1963

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79/900391

07/06/01

[illegible][illegible]

Date _____

Considered

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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Atty. Docket No.
09800-1020

Serial No.

Applicant: **Michael L. Obradovich**

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	4	4	8	1	5	8	4		11-6-84	Holland			
	5	6	2	1	2	5	2		4-15-97	Bucknam			
	5	7	9	0	9	7	3		8-4-98	Blaker et al.			

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	0	7	7	1	6	8	6	5-7-97	European Patent Appl.				
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		L. Kraar, "Knowledge Engineering," <u>Fortune</u> , October 28, 1996, pp. 163-164.
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		J. Treece, "New crop of gadgets promises healthy, comfy ride," <u>Automotive News</u> , May 26, 1997, pp. 3 & 49.
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	5	2	7	8	5	3	2		1-11-94	Hegg et al.			
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	4	8	7	6	5	9	4	10-24-89	Schiffman			
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	5	4	0	8	6	8	6	4-18-95	Mankovitz			

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OTHER DOCUMENTS (including Author, Title Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

		E. Lapham, "Buick experiments with hands-free driving," <u>Automotive News</u> , April 21, 1997, p. 60.
		E. Lapham, "It's not hard to get used to magnets doing the steering," <u>Automotive News</u> , April 21, 1997, p. 60.
		"Look, Ma, no hands!" <u>Autoweek</u> , Headliner, April 21, 1997, p. 6.

Examiner

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- * Examiner: Initial citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.